



# Electrochemical Evaluation of Dimethylsilanediol

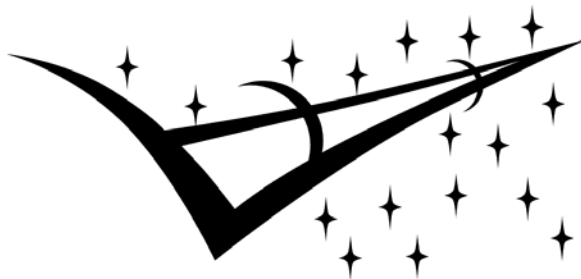
Mousetta Spann

Tougaloo College

Daniel Gazda

Water and Food Analytical Lab

SPACE LIFE SCIENCES  
SUMMER INSTITUTE

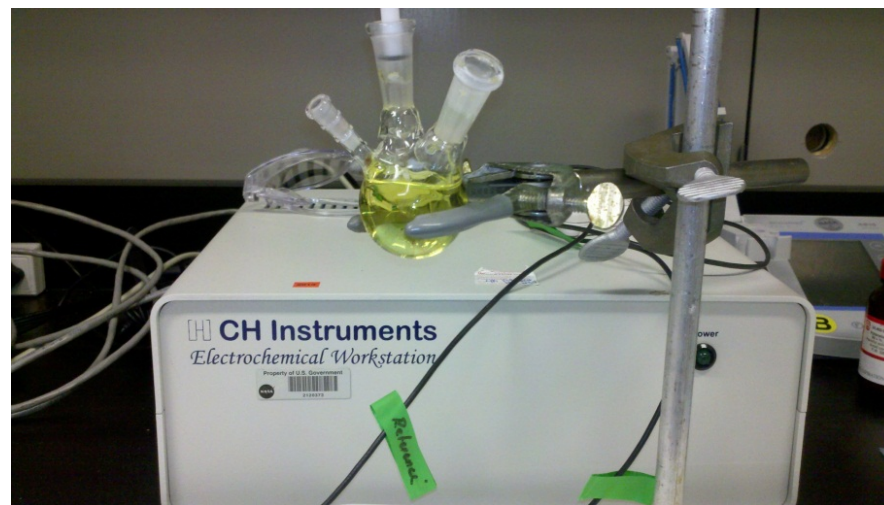
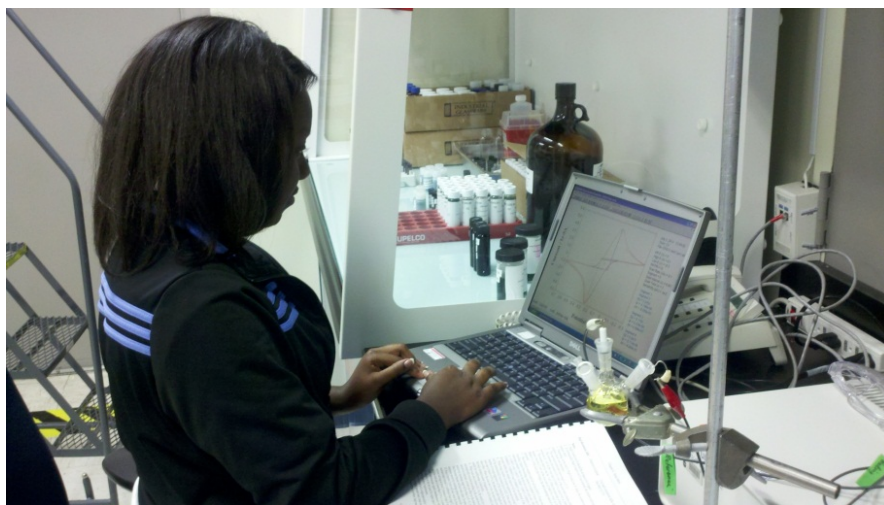


# Introduction

- ▢ Macon, MS
- ▢ Rising senior
- ▢ Biology major
- ▢ Public Health: Occupational Health and Safety
- ▢ Why Nasa?
  1. great opportunities to experience different STEM areas
  2. many different career options.
  3. innovative, ever changing, exciting, and new

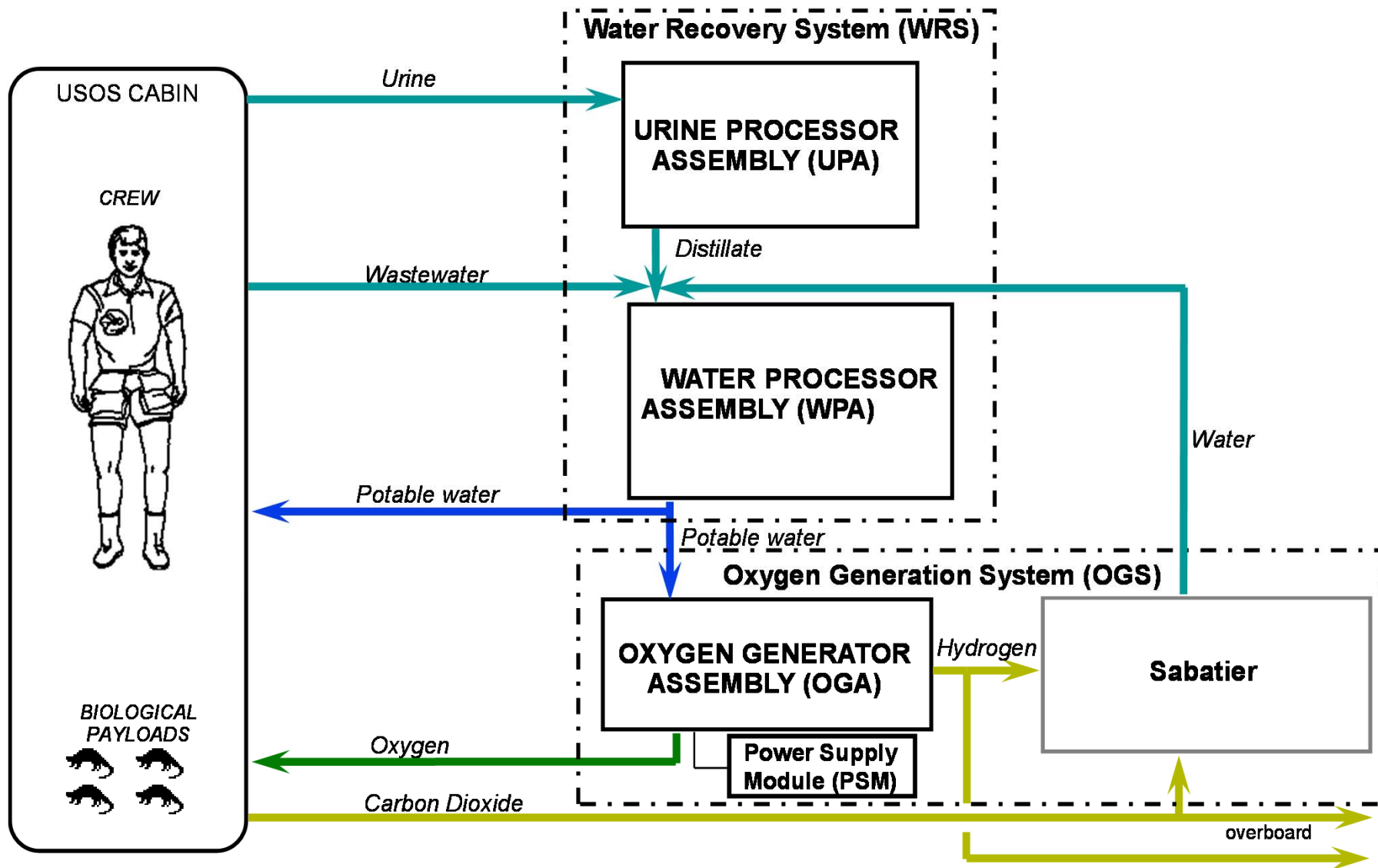
# Objectives of Internship

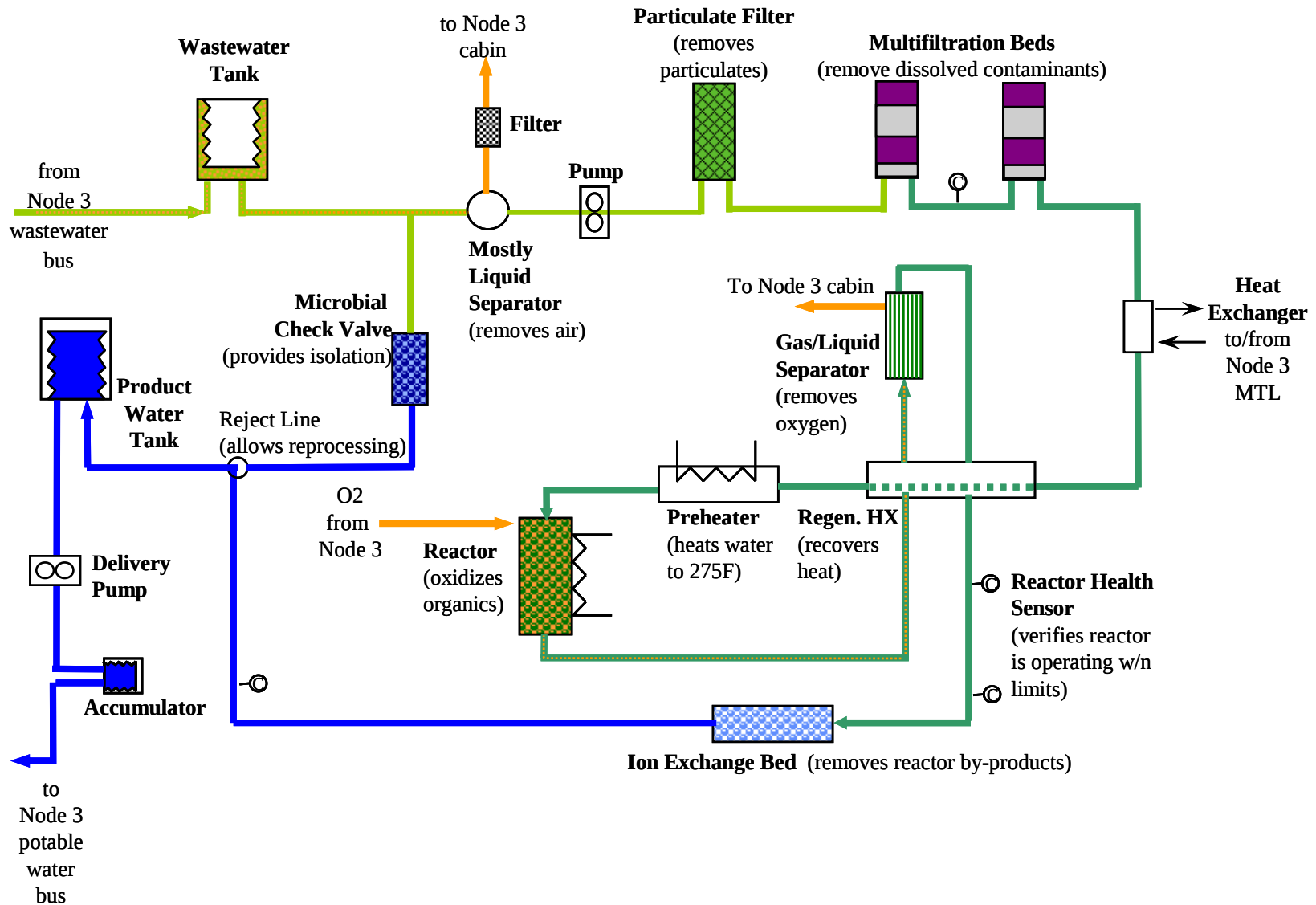
- To become familiar with electroanalytical techniques in the laboratory
- Perform electrochemical analysis of solutions



# Background

- Purpose: to find ways to form DMSD from larger siloxane compounds.
- Used breathing air and heat to see if DMSD would volatilize and ran scans with gold and platinum electrodes in siloxane compounds to see if there is a viable pathway on the ISS for DMSD formation
- Nasa is interested in this because DMSD has the potential to mask the presence of more toxic compounds.
- Relevance: astronauts will be exposed to the same conditions which could progress and become more of a threat

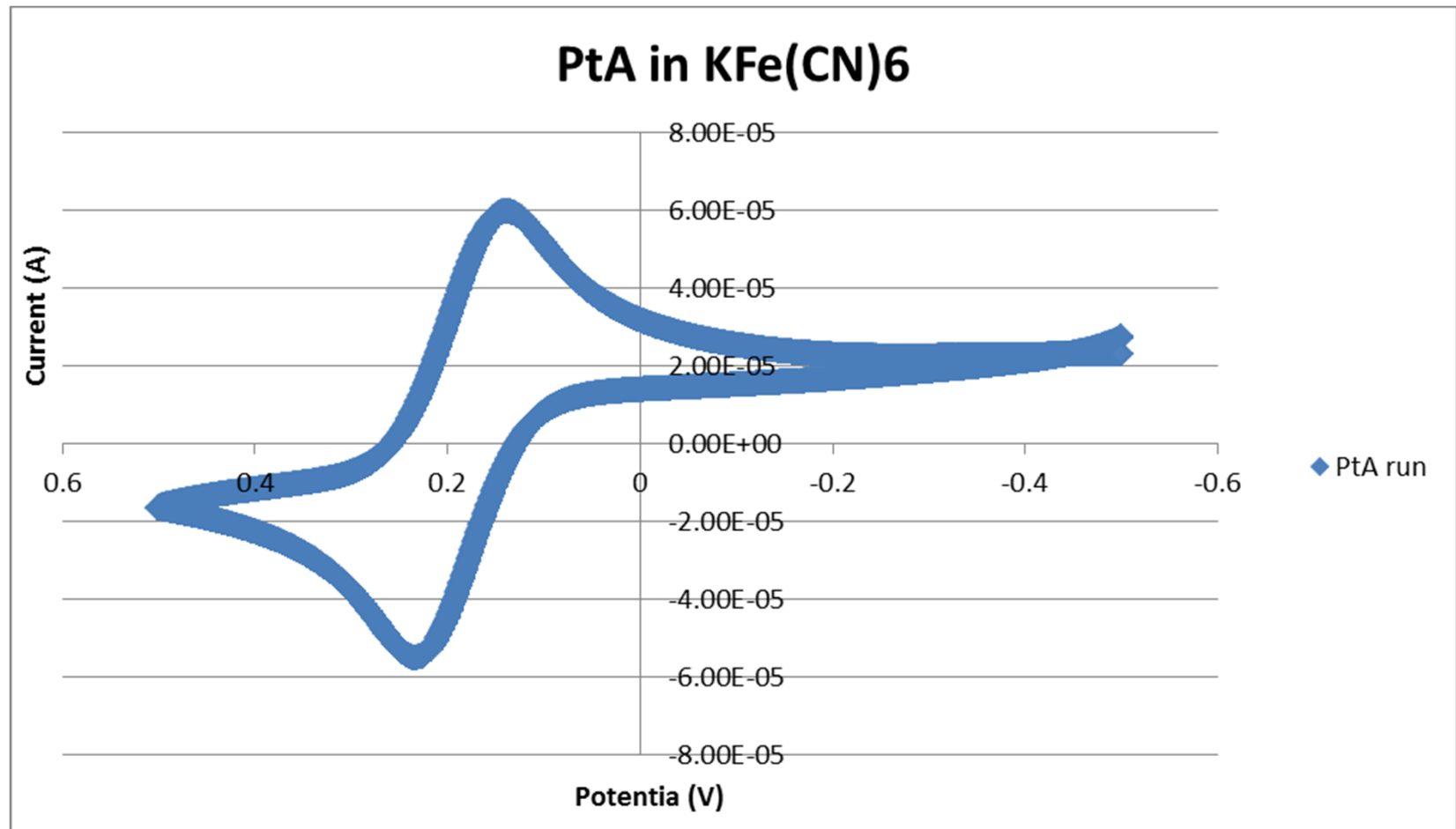




# Methods/Procedures or Skills

- ▮ Used DMSD solution under different conditions to test the volatility
- ▮ Used gold, silver, and platinum electrodes and tested each one and high and low intervals in KCL to find the potential range
- ▮ Ran each electrode in  $\text{KFe}(\text{CN})_6$  to see the results against the background
- ▮ Ran each electrode in DMSD to see results against background
- ▮ Learned to use an electrochemical workstation, how to dilute solutions, proper identification of compounds, and how to interpret and understand graphs of an electrochemical workstation

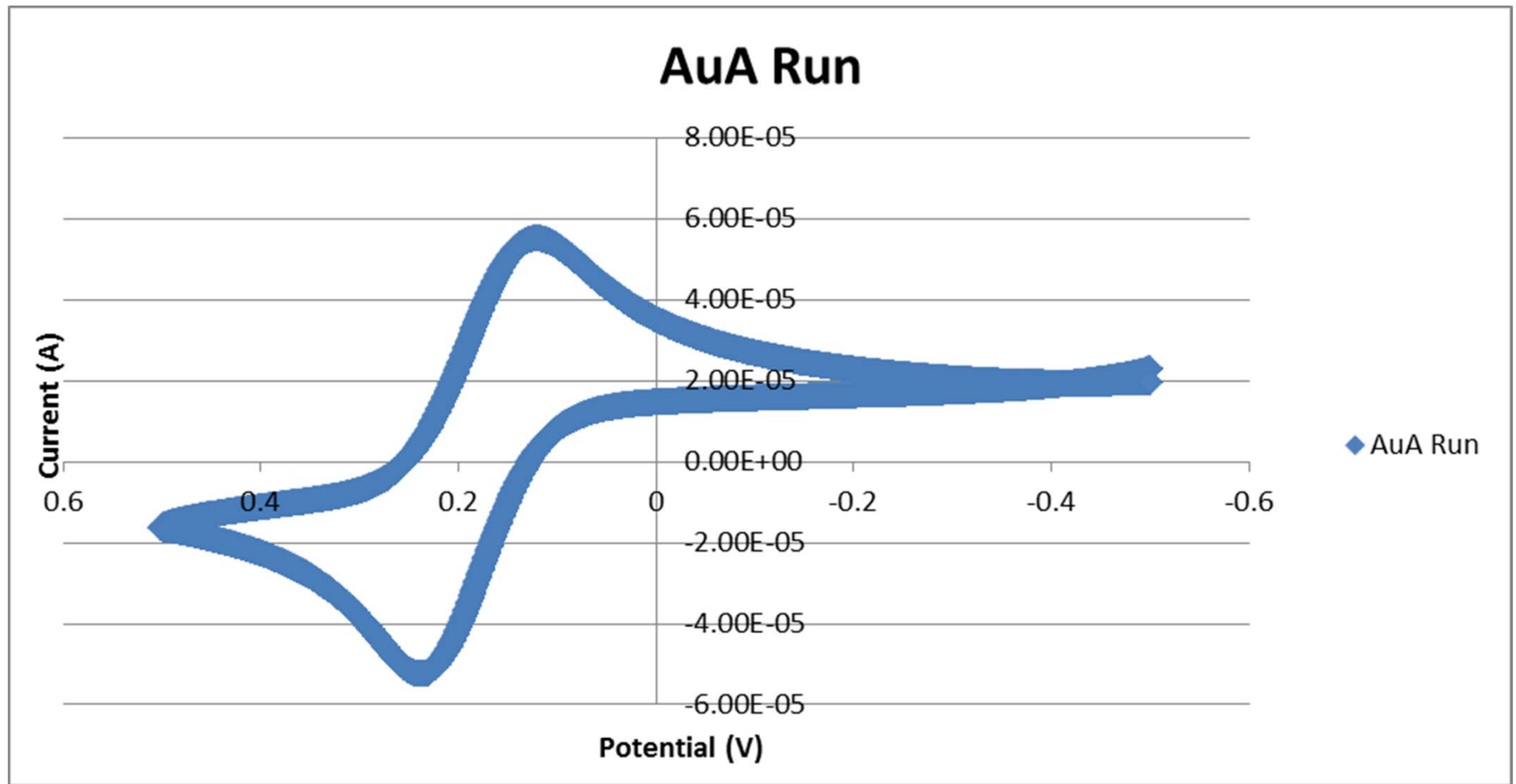
# Results



□ Graph of platinum electrode in  $\text{KFe}(\text{CN})_6$

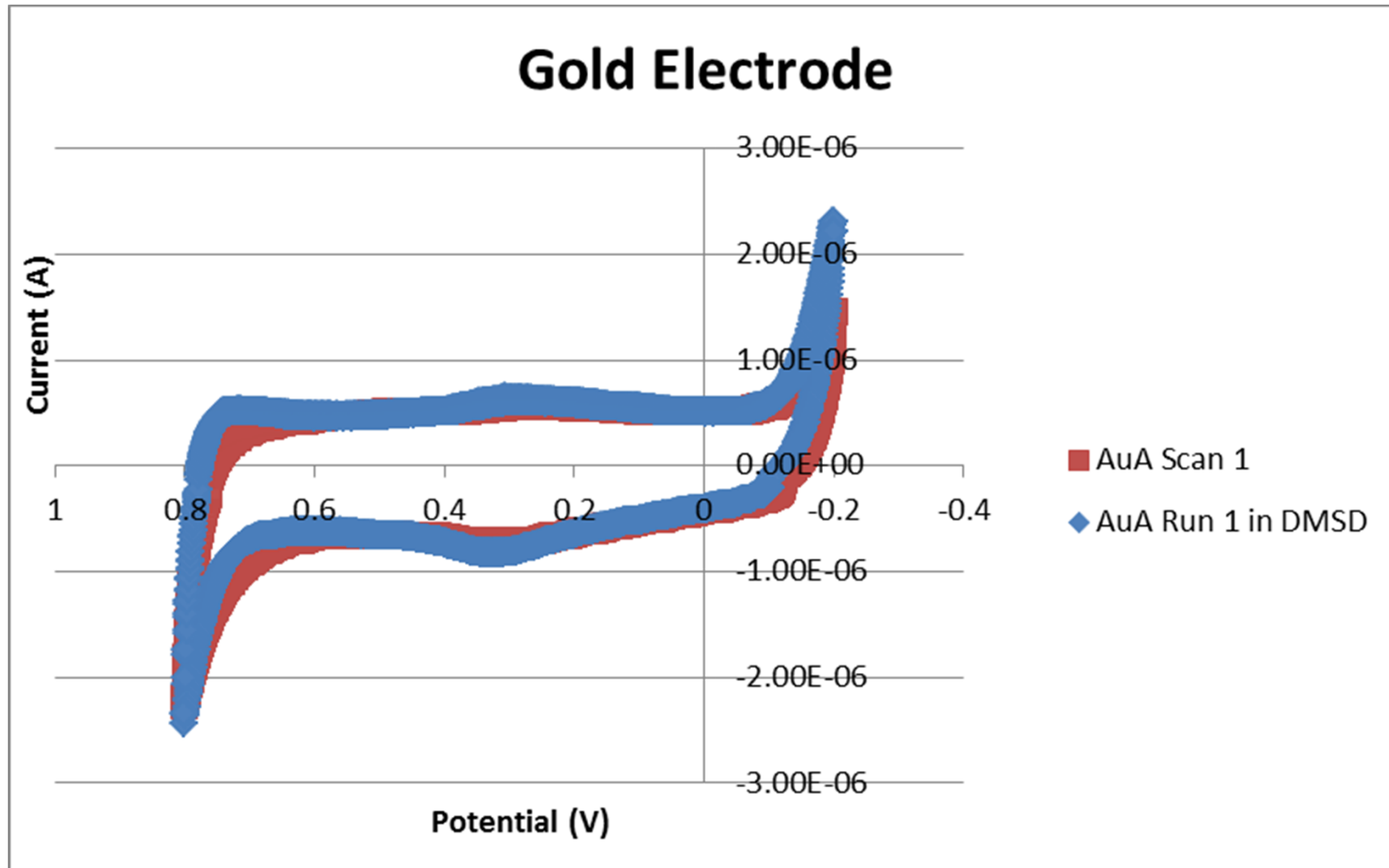


# Results



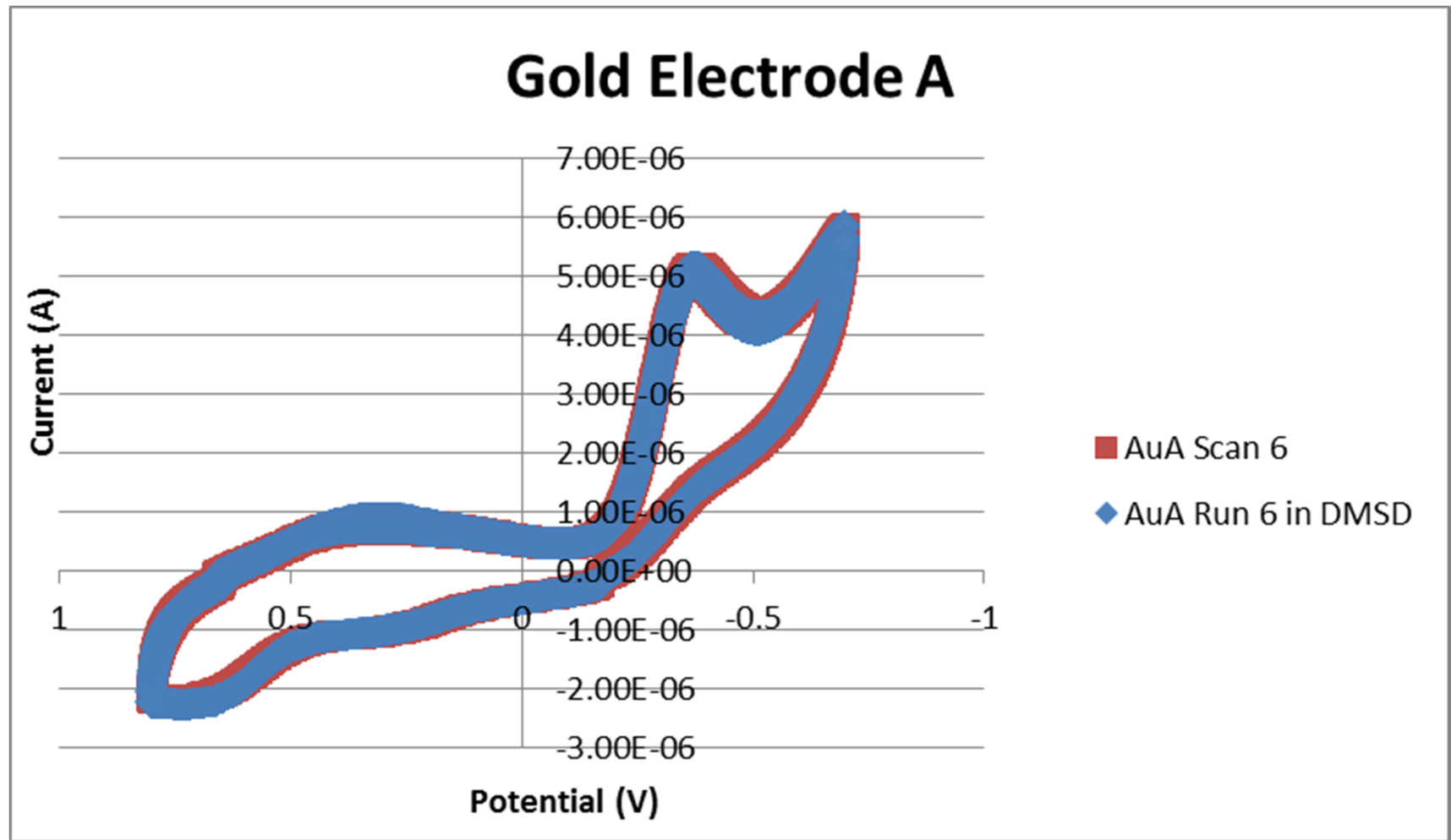
□ Graph shows gold electrode in  $\text{KFe}(\text{CN})_6$

# Results



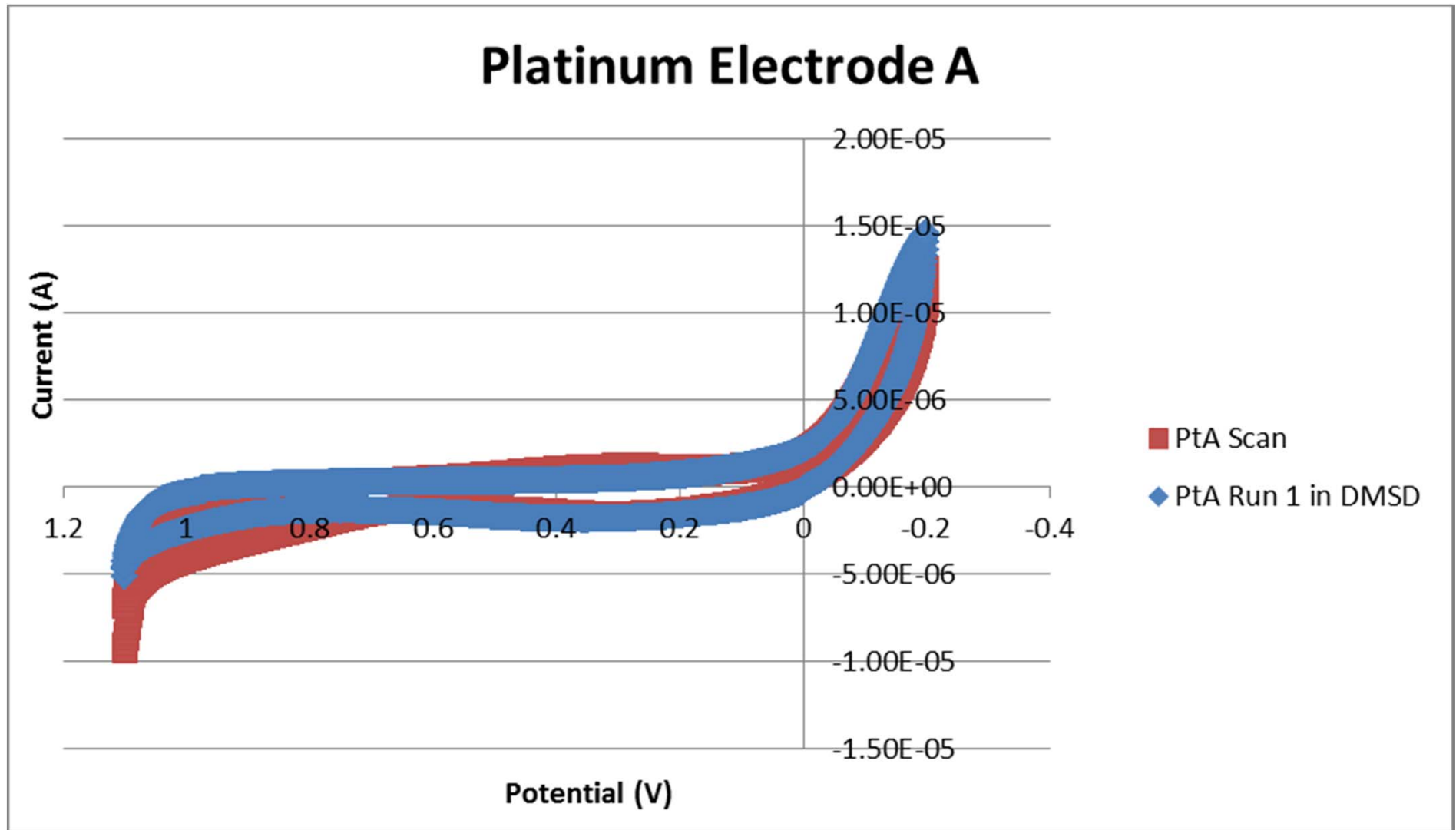
□ Graph of the potential range of gold electrode A in .1 M KCl and scan in DMSD.

# Results



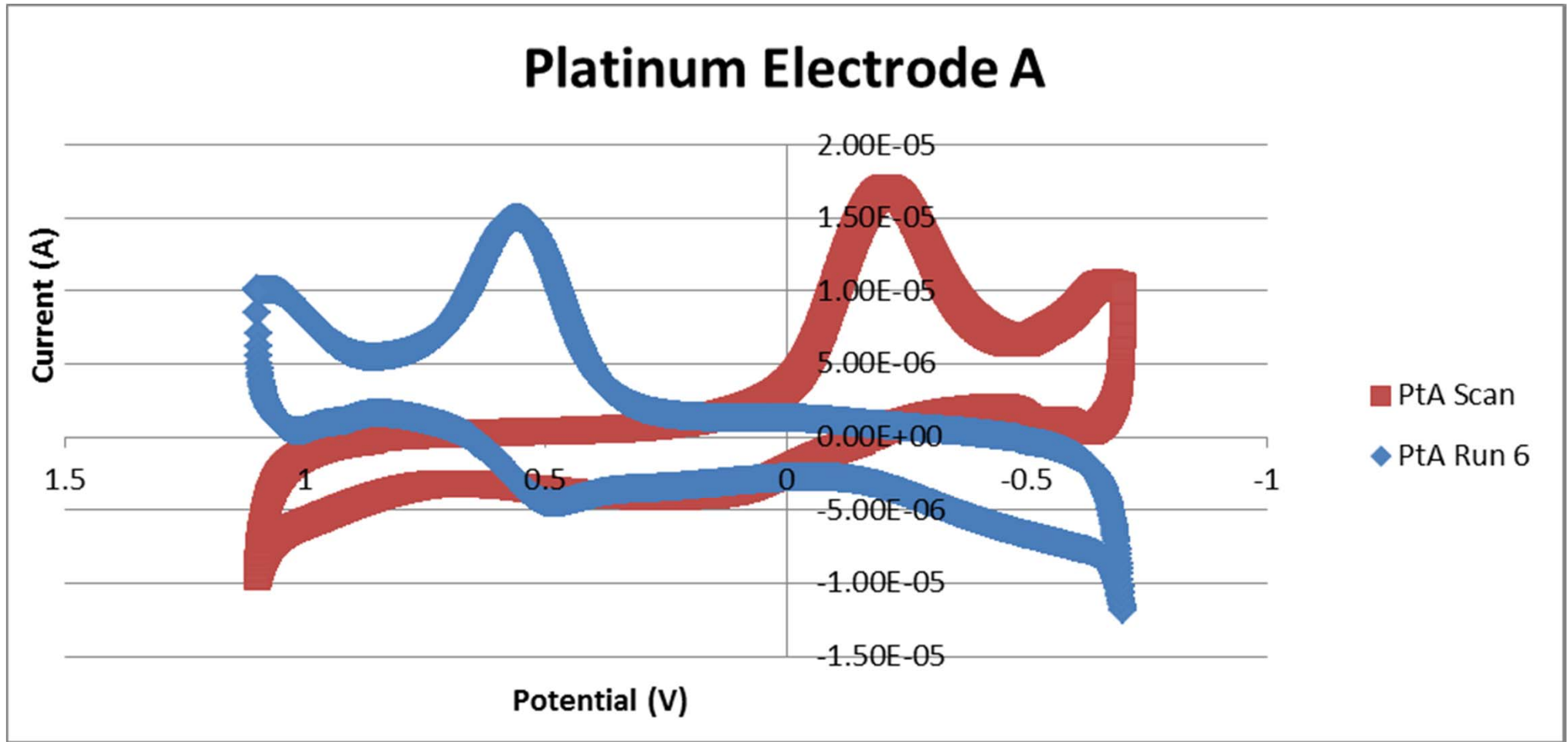
- Graph shows scan of gold electrode outside of potential range in DMSD against the background scan in .1M KCl.

# Results



□ Graph of the potential range of platinum electrode A in .1 M KCl and scan in DMSD.

# Results



□ Graph shows the scan of the platinum electrode in DMSP against the background scan in .1M KCl.

# Results

## DMSD Volatility

| DESCRIPTION                | SAMPLE DATE | Initial Solute Volume mg/L | Final Solute Volume mg/L | Actual Conc. mg/L | Theoretical Conc. mg/L | Percent Yield |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 48 ppm DMSD stock solution | 06/17/2013  | 5                          | 5                        | 48                | 48.00                  | 100.00        |
| DI water blank             | 06/17/2013  | 5                          | 5                        | <500              | /                      | /             |
| (C1) t = 4 hrs             | 06/17/2013  | 5                          | 5                        | 53                | 48.00                  | 110.42        |
| (B1) t = 4 hrs             | 06/17/2013  | 5                          | 5                        | 54                | 48.00                  | 112.50        |
| (A1) t = 4 hrs             | 06/17/2013  | 5                          | 5                        | 49                | 48.00                  | 102.08        |
| (C2) t = 5 hrs             | 06/17/2013  | 5                          | 4.2                      | 61                | 57.14                  | 106.75        |
| (C3) t = 5 hrs             | 06/17/2013  | 5                          | 4.4                      | 57                | 54.55                  | 104.50        |
| (B2) t = 24 hrs            | 06/18/2013  | 5                          | 3.6                      | 68                | 66.67                  | 102.00        |
| (A2) t = 24 hrs            | 06/18/2013  | 5                          | 5                        | 50                | 48.00                  | 104.17        |
| (B3) t = 48 hrs            | 06/19/2013  | 5                          | 2.3                      | 120               | 104.35                 | 115.00        |
| (A3) t = 48 hrs            | 06/19/2013  | 5                          | 4.6                      | 55                | 52.17                  | 105.42        |
| (B4) t = 72 hrs            | 06/20/2013  | 5                          | 0.8                      | 320               | 300.00                 | 106.67        |
| (A4) t = 72 hrs            | 06/20/2013  | 5                          | 4.4                      | 58                | 54.55                  | 106.33        |
| (B5) t = 72 hrs            | 06/20/2013  | 5                          | 0.5                      | 400               | 480.00                 | 83.33         |
| (A5) t = 1 week            | 06/24/2013  | 5                          | 3.8                      | 68                | 63.16                  | 107.67        |

A: ambient temp.; B: heat only; C:heat and purge gas

5 controls for each condition

Chart shows the volatility concentration and percent yield of 48 ppm DMSD solution.

# Discussion

- Learned that it is unlikely that DMSD will volatilize on the ISS.
- Contributions to NASA's knowledge: it is not a harmful substance
- Information can be used to find source of DMSD and ways to stop its formation and create better environment for future astronauts



# Life Outside of NASA



□ Barbequed for the holidays



# Life Outside of NASA



□ Meet and greet with local alumni chapter

# Acknowledgements

- Dr. Daniel Gazda
- Dr. Mike Kuo
- William Wallace
- Brandon Taylor

|||||  
ANY QUESTIONS??

